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Varden, Christopher[Varden.Christopher@epa.gov]; Mylott, Richard[Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]

**From:** Susan Hakanson

**Sent:** Sat 8/15/2015 6:35:14 PM

**Subject:** La Plata County Recovery Center Press Release  
Press Release - Recovery Center - Final 12 PM 8-15-15.doc

For additional information:

August 15, 2015

Please contact: Call Center, 970-385-8700

12:00 PM

## **Local Recovery Center for Businesses, Employees & Affected Landowners in Response to the Gold King Mine Release Impacts**

Durango, CO – La Plata County, with the assistance of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DoLA), and with the cooperation of local, state and federal agencies, will open a Recovery Center in Durango on Tuesday, August 18 and Wednesday, August 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the east end of the La Plata County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, Main Avenue, Durango Colorado.

Staff from local, state and federal agencies noted below will be available to answer questions regarding financial and/or technical assistance related to the Animas River - Gold King Mine release. If you believe that you have suffered an economic loss related to the event, or if you have questions related to water quality, crops or livestock,

individuals will be on hand to offer information and/or assistance.

Services will be directed toward La Plata County businesses, employees and landowners who have been affected by the Gold King Mine release.

Services/Resources will include:

- **Environmental Protection Agency-Assistance with Form 95 Claims for Damage** for questions concerning loss of income or business.
- **Environmental Protection Agency/Colorado Department of Health and Environment-** (for questions concerning Water Quality Issues)
- **Small Business Development Center/Region 9 Economic Development District/ La Plata County Economic Development Alliance/ Chamber of Commerce** (for questions and resources regarding impacts on businesses)
- **Colorado State University Extension Service** (for information concerning agricultural and ditch issues)
- **La Plata County Department of Human Services** (for information about local social and financial supports)
- **Colorado Department of Labor and Employment/Unemployment Benefits-Southwest Workforce** (for information on how to apply for unemployment benefits and job-seeking)

For additional information, please contact the Call Center 970-385-8700 or email  
[susan.hakanson@co.laplata.co.us](mailto:susan.hakanson@co.laplata.co.us).